

Washington, D.C. -- Congressman Sanford Bishop released the following statement in response to President Obama's Address to a Joint Session of Congress.

"Last November, the American people demanded change both at home and abroad. I am pleased that President Obama tonight presented a comprehensive plan to combat the country's economic and financial challenges – a plan that will bring about the change that this country so desperately needs to stimulate the economy, create jobs, get consumer credit flowing, relieve the housing crisis and bring accountability to our financial system.

"There are many components to the President's plan, but each is dependent on the next and none of them can stand alone. The challenges we face are interrelated, and if we are to see our economy through to a brighter day, we must address them all. Tonight the President called on Congress and the American people to confront these challenges, to take the steps required to bring fiscal stability and to grow our economy over the long term.

"The President also spoke tonight about reforming the budget, and promised the American people that he will work to reduce the deficit by half in his first term as president. Later this week, President Obama will send his budget outline to the Hill and I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House to ensure that we bring responsible spending back to our nation's budget to reflect the President's vision."